LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A missing item at JFK Library

A friend and I recently visited the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Dorchester.

Marking the 25th anniversary of President Kennedy's assassination is reason enough to remember him by examining his heroic life. But this is an election year, and for those of us who weren't of age during JFK's presidency, the library tour is a fine way to understand the events surrounding this great man.

An important decision by JFK in the last days of his life, however, is omitted. That is the decision, detailed in National Security Action Memorandum No. 263, dated Oct. 11, 1963, which announced plans for the Vietnamization of the war in Indochina, withdrawing 1,000 US military personnel by Christmas 1963, and to have all of them out by the end of 1965.

Three days after the assassination, President Johnson signed an order reversing this.

Facts like these need to be known by all visitors to the library – students on field trips, Kennedy's contemporaries, and veterans.

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